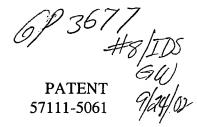


9-19-02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Edward J. VOTRUBA, et al.

Serial No.

09/884,706

Filed:

June 19, 2001

For:

DOOR LATCHING SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 3677

Examiner: D. Melwani

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, enclosures and fee are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail No: <u>EL942784286US</u> postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Box New Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington,

D.C. 20231 on 09/18/02 By: Michelle Saugher

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with applicant's duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application 37 CFR § 1.56, attached hereto is an Information Disclosure Statement with a copy of each reference set forth therein.

The submission of any document herewith, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application.

Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to

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antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a <u>prima facie</u> prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully request that the attached Information Disclosure Statement and references be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP Sec. 609.

Respectfully submitted,

9/16/02

Date

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